

June 10, 2026

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mullin:

I write to follow up on my unanswered February 23, 2026, letter about recent Department of Homeland Security recruitment tactics.

DHS and ICE have deployed recruitment ads featuring white nationalist slogans, songs, and imagery while lowering recruitment standards—facilitating the hiring of agents with histories of violent extremism. I renew my request about what DHS has done to ensure it has not been infiltrated by violent extremists, and who is responsible for this dangerous recruitment campaign.

In March, the Colorado Information Analysis Center (CIAC)—a fusion center dedicated to conducting threat assessments to prevent acts of terrorism—issued to law enforcement partners a bulletin on dangers related to DHS’s recent recruitment tactics.<sup>1</sup> That bulletin documented some of the same similarities between ICE recruitment tactics and white supremacist messaging as my February 23 letter, including DHS’s promotion of song lyrics “popular within and adopted by white nationalist organizations,” lyrics which “opened the manifesto of a white supremacist who killed three people at a Dollar General store in Jacksonville, Florida in 2023.”<sup>2</sup>

The CIAC warned that, “white supremacist violent extremist groups have been simultaneously advocating for their followers to join ICE and/or musing about the potential for ICE to turn into a white supremacist militia.”<sup>3</sup> According to CIAC, these extremists could “misinterpret DHS messaging as a permissive environment to engage in vigilante action and/or violence.”<sup>4</sup> The bulletin even noted that ICE’s messaging could “increase the likelihood that” violent extremists would “justify or advocate the use of violence” against your own people at DHS.

I cannot believe that you support the messages associated with these recruitment campaigns, or want anyone under your supervision to use the imprimatur of the United States Government to

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<sup>1</sup> *CIAC Mission*, COLO. INFO. ANALYSIS CTR., <https://ciac.colorado.gov/default.aspx?MenuItemID=5&MenuGroup=Public+Home> (last visited June 1, 2026); COLO. INFO. ANALYSIS CTR., DEP’T OF PUB. SAFETY, SITUATIONAL AWARENESS BULLETIN I (2026), <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/28132538-colorado-information-analysis-center-2026-0000860/>.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 5.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 2.

promote those messages. Accordingly, I ask that you respond to the questions in my February 23 letter and assure that DHS has taken all necessary steps to rectify these problems.

Thank you for your prompt attention to my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon".

Sheldon Whitehouse  
Ranking Member,  
Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on  
Federal Courts, Oversight,  
Agency Action, and  
Federal Rights